AUTODOC CLUB

How to change track rod end on a car – replacement tutorial

VIDEO TUTORIAL



YOU MAY NEED THE FOLLOWING:



- a new tie rod end
- a set of suitable tools
- a universal spray cleaner and a wire brush
- WD-40 spray
- a measuring tool
- ball joint puller
- torque wrench

BUY TOOLS

Please note!

- Tie rod ends are pivoting components of the steering system
- They transmit force to the steering knuckles to turn the wheels
- Usually, the left and right components mirror each other in design and need to be mounted on the correct side
- They are not interchangeable

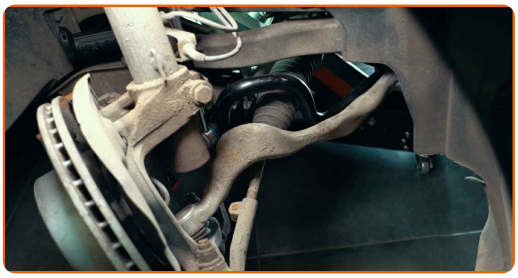
1 Raise the car with a car lift or a jack



Important!

- When using a jack you also need to use jack stands

2 Turn the steering wheel as far as it will go to access the tie rod end



3 Clean the fasteners connecting the tie rod end to the steering knuckle and the tie rod



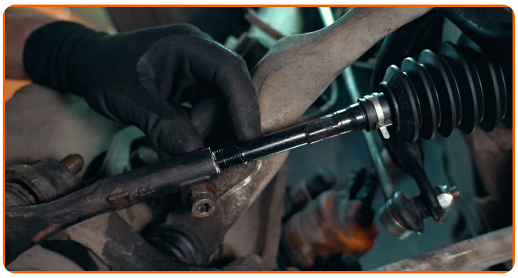
The tie rod end is additionally secured on the tie rod

- with a clamping bolt
- or a lock nut that prevents the part from self-loosening

4 Remove the ball joint from the steering knuckle. Use a ball joint puller



5 The connection between the tie rod end and the tie rod is adjustable



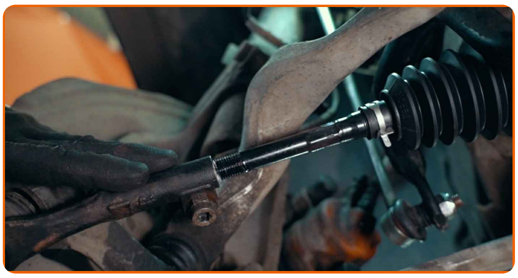
Caution!

- How far the tie rod end is screwed onto the threaded portion affects the wheel toe angle

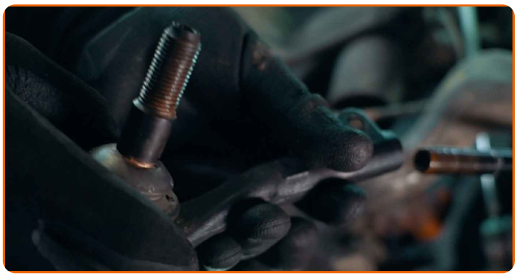
6 Measure the distance from the beginning of the threaded portion on the tie rod to the tie rod end



7 Maintain this value when installing a new tie rod end



8 Loosen the additional fastener and unscrew the tie rod end from the tie rod



AUTODOC experts recommend:

- You can also make a mark on the tie rod to make installing a new tie rod end easier

9 Clean the tie rod end mounting seats with an anti-corrosion agent



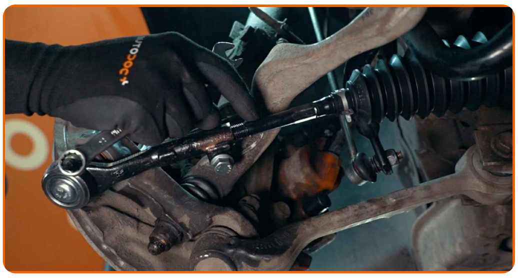
10 Install a new tie rod end



11 Maintain the required length on the tie rod



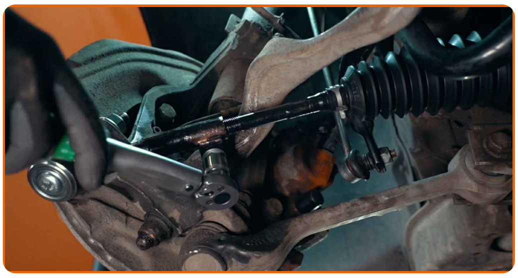
12 After installation, check that the length of the threaded portion is the same as before



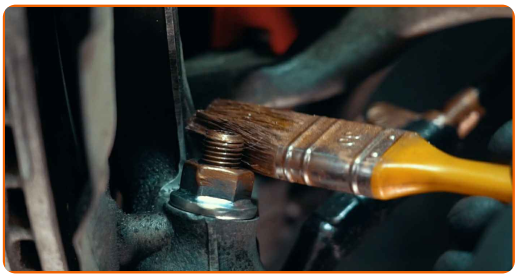
Important!

- Adjust it by turning the tie rod for the required number of rotations

13 Secure the tie rod end



14 Treat the fasteners with an anti-corrosion agent



Please note!

- When measuring, do not use the length of the lock nut as a reference
- The length of a new lock nut may be different from that of the old one

15 If the ball stud is tapered, position the removal tool under the dust boot to remove the tie rod end



16 If the ball stud has a thrust washer, position the remover so that the force is applied between the steering knuckle and the ball stud



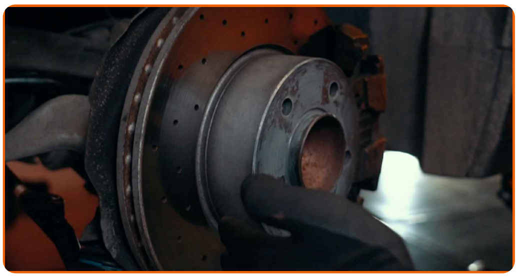
17 Unscrew the tie rod end while holding the tie rod



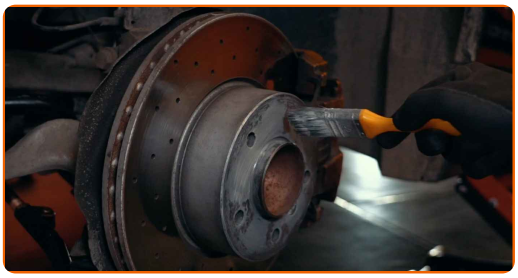
18 Make sure its mounting seat is free from corrosion and dirt



19 Make sure that the wheel mounting surface is clean and smooth



20 Clean it and treat it with an anti-corrosion agent

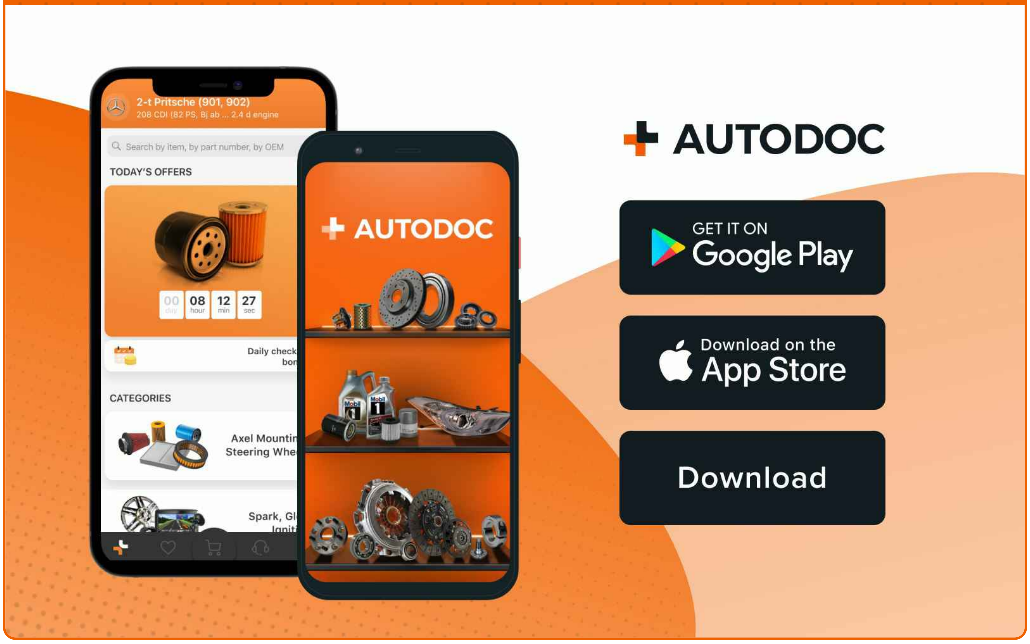


Important!

- Align the wheels
- It is recommended to check the condition of the tie rods and replace them, if necessary

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TRACK ROD END: A WIDE SELECTION

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